

killed in summer, and an immature bird. No additional specimens had been added to the National Collection since the Catalogue of the Game-Birds had been published in 1893.

All but one of the specimens lent by Mr. Cocks had been collected by Mr. Abel Chapman in July 1881 and by himself in September 1882 (*cf.* 'Zoologist,' 1882, p. 407; 1883, p. 482), and included examples of both sexes in summer- and autumn-plumage. It would be noted that in this species from high latitudes the summer- and autumn-plumages were only partially assumed, and were more or less thickly interspersed with white feathers: also that the rufous colour of the summer- and autumn-plumages resembled that of *L. rupestris*, but was of a somewhat paler tint.

Mr. Abel Chapman in 'Wild Norway,' pp. 185-6, had stated that *L. hyperboreus* was a Willow-Grouse and not a Ptarmigan, and that its cry, as well as the size of its bill and claws, clearly proved its affinities with the Willow-Grouse. The cry he described as a Grouse-like *bec, bec*, but lower and more subdued than that of the Willow-Grouse.

It would be seen, however, on comparison that the somewhat slender bill of *L. hyperboreus* resembled that of the Ptarmigan and not of the Grouse, and that in the Spitzbergen bird the male had a black patch in front of the eye, and was undoubtedly a larger and longer-tailed form of the Rock-Ptarmigan, *L. rupestris*. The Grouse-like voice described by Mr. Chapman no doubt indicated an affinity with the other section of the genus *Lagopus*. A full description and plate of this species would be found in Koenig's 'Avifauna Spitzbergensis,' p. 154, pl. iv. (1911).

On behalf of Mr. JOHN N. KENNEDY, R.N., Mr. OGILVIE-GRANT read the following description of a new subspecies of Goldfinch from Bermuda. Mr. Kennedy proposed to name it

*CARDUELIS CARDUELIS BERMUDIANA*, subsp. n.

*Adult male.* Similar to *C. c. parva* Tsch., but distinguished by its darker coloration. The back and rump dark umber-brown; the breast, sides of body, and flanks umber-brown,

inclining to dark buff on the chest; much darker than in *C. c. parva*. In size it is almost identical with *C. c. parva*. Bill light horn-colour, tip dark brown; iris dark brown; legs and feet brown. Culmen 11 mm.; wing 74; tail 45; tarsus 15.

*Adult female.* Darker than the female of *C. c. parva*. Bill pale horn-colour, tip dark brown; iris dark brown; legs and feet light brown. Culmen 11 mm.; wing 71; tail 45; tarsus 14.

*Type* in the British Museum: ♂. Ireland Island, Bermuda, 23. xii. 12. Collected and presented by J. N. Kennedy, R.N.

Mr. Ogilvie-Grant remarked that the Goldfinch had been introduced into the Bermuda Islands at some unknown date. Captain Savile Reid recorded one observed near Harrington Sound in April 1875 [*cf.* 'Zoologist,' 1877, p. 412, & 'Auk,' xviii. p. 255 (1901)].

The propriety of giving names to birds which had become darker or lighter in plumage, when introduced by man into new localities, was questioned by several Members.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD said that he had recently re-examined the type-specimen of the Cassowary which he named *Casuarus mitratus*, as well as the coloured drawings and photographs now exhibited. He had come to the conclusion that if *C. philipi* was to be treated as a species, he was wrong in describing *C. mitratus* as a subspecies of *C. unappendiculatus*; and it must be given full specific rank. His error was due to the fact that when the description was drawn up the bird was alive, and had not reached its full growth and colour. He also exhibited coloured drawings of *C. keysseri* and *C. picticollis hecki*, and drew attention to the differences in young and old examples of *C. keysseri*. With regard to *C. p. hecki*, the drawing of the adult type, made from life by Keulemans, appeared very different from that made by Mr. Grönvold from the young bird now living in the Gardens of the Zoological Society of London. In addition